What is Claimed:

1. A method of generating recoverable units in a database, the method comprising:

partitioning the database into a first and a second unit;

creating a primary catalog comprising metadata of logical elements of the units, the primary catalog referencing the units;

creating multiple logs such that any one unit is associated with only one log;

creating two secondary catalogs, each secondary catalog corresponding to a respective unit and comprising metadata of physical elements for the respective unit;

linking the primary catalog to the secondary catalogs; and

maintaining the secondary catalogs such that the first unit is recoverable independently from the second unit.

- 2. The method of claim 1, wherein creating two secondary catalogs further comprises creating two secondary catalogs wherein each catalog includes a log stream corresponding to the respective unit.
- 3. The method of claim 1, wherein linking further comprises linking the primary catalog to the secondary catalog such that a first unit is recoverable independently from the second unit while the second unit is being accessed.
- 4. The method of claim 1, wherein creating a primary catalog comprises creating a catalog which contains metadata for at least one of the database, tables, indexes, data types, constraints, stored procedures, triggers, and file groups.
- 5. The method of claim 1, wherein creating two secondary catalogs comprises creating catalogs which contain metadata for at least one of pages, files, B-Trees, heaps, and log data.
- 6. The method of claim 1, wherein maintaining comprises separately logging updates to the respective units in the respective secondary catalogs.

307243.1 / MSFT-2944 PATENT

7. A system having a database, the system comprising:

a processor having access to memory, the memory having instructions which, when executed, perform the method comprising:

partitioning the database into a first and a second unit;

creating a primary catalog comprising metadata of logical elements of the units, the primary catalog referencing the units;

creating multiple logs such that any one unit is associated with only one log;

creating two secondary catalogs, each secondary catalog corresponding to a respective unit and comprising metadata of physical elements for the respective unit;

linking the primary catalog to the secondary catalogs; and

maintaining the secondary catalogs such that the first unit is recoverable independently from the second unit.

- 8. The system of claim 7, wherein the method step of creating two secondary catalogs further comprises creating two secondary catalogs wherein each catalog includes a log stream corresponding to the respective unit.
- 9. The system of claim 7, wherein the method step of linking further comprising linking the primary catalog to the secondary catalog such that a first unit is recoverable independently from the second unit while the second unit is being accessed.
- 10. The system of claim 7, wherein the method step of maintaining comprises separately logging updates to the respective units in the respective secondary catalogs.
- 11. The system of claim 7, wherein the method step of maintaining comprises separately logging updates to the respective units in the respective secondary catalogs.
- 12. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing a method, the method comprising:

307243.1 / MSFT-2944 PATENT

partitioning the database into a first and a second unit;

creating a primary catalog comprising metadata of logical elements of the units, the primary catalog referencing the units;

creating multiple logs such that any one unit is associated with only one log;

creating two secondary catalogs, each secondary catalog corresponding to a respective unit and comprising metadata of physical elements for the respective unit;

linking the primary catalog to the secondary catalogs; and

maintaining the secondary catalogs such that the first unit is recoverable independently from the second unit.

- 13. The computer-readable medium of claim 12, wherein the step of creating two secondary catalogs further comprises creating two secondary catalogs wherein each catalog includes a log stream corresponding to the respective unit.
- 14. The computer-readable medium of claim 12, wherein the step of linking further comprises linking the primary catalog to the secondary catalog such that a first unit is recoverable independently from the second unit while the second unit is being accessed.
- 15. The computer-readable medium of claim 12, wherein the step of creating a primary catalog comprises creating a catalog which contains metadata for at least one of the database, tables, indexes, data types, constraints, stored procedures, triggers, and file groups.
- 16. The computer-readable medium of claim 12, wherein the step of creating two secondary catalogs comprises creating catalogs which contain metadata for at least one of pages, files, B-Trees, heaps, and log data.
- 17. The computer-readable medium of claim 12, wherein the step of maintaining comprises separately logging updates to the respective units in the respective secondary catalogs.